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SOURCE Plamuri i Liris.MEETING OF ALBANIAN EMIGRES IN YUGOSLAVIA

The second plenary session of the League of Albanian Political Refugees in Yugoslavia met in Skoplje on 25 - 26 October 1952. Among the participants were a number of Yugoslav officials; newspapermen; Dushan Mugoshi (also spelled Mugose), friend of Albania and member of the central committee of the Yugoslav BK /PK, Communist Party? of Macedonia; Reiz Shaqiri, members of the plenum; as well as members of the executive council of the league.

Apostol Tanefi, chairman of the league, opened the plenary session and then turned over the meeting to Tajar Hatipi.

Tajar Hatipi began his speech by praising the successes achieved by the new Yugoslavia. He stated that not only the people but also the minorities are enjoying political, cultural, economic, and social freedom. He cited examples of industrial build-up in various sections of the country, mentioning the following enterprises in Kosovo and Metohija: a large cotton-spinning mill in Pristina, a large steam electric power station in Kosovo, and a steam electric power station in Djakovo.

Hatipi added that by such acts, Yugoslavia has shown that it does not pursue foreign imperialist policies. Reference was also made to the efforts of the Yugoslav delegation at the UN to promote peace and its desire to cooperate with all. He also cited the importance of the Sixth Congress of the Yugoslav Communist Party. He attacked the aggressive policy of the USSR and its Satellites.

Turning to Albania, Tajar Hatipi discussed present conditions there, stating that only destruction, poverty, and torture exist in Albania. One must keep in mind, he added, the large number of Albanians who have fled to Yugoslavia because of the enslavement of Albania.

Albania is the only country in Europe whose government is not recognized by a majority of the world's states, he stated, adding that the Enver Hoxha government is commanded by the Kremlin, is dependent on Moscow, and is not in a position to show its national individuality. He termed Albania today a large prison camp.

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Hatipi continued: Economically, Albania is the poorest country in Europe. Although it is known that its industry and agriculture were not developed and exploited with maximum efficiency, the Albanian people used to be quite wealthy. The present government, instead of developing the national economy, has impoverished even the poorest to such a degree that the Albanians do not possess enough food and clothing. This economic situation is attributable to the USSR, which is robbing the country and teaching the Enver Hoxha supporters to torture innocent people. Day by day ships are being loaded in Albanian ports with goods such as metals, leather, oil, olives, naphtha, asphalt, wool, eggs, and meat. Nevertheless, Radio Tirana and the press never stop praising the USSR as Albania's protector and benefactor. What the Enver Hoxha regime considers as material assistance is actually no-longer-usable old material from the USSR and its Satellites. This situation was emphasized by the execution of Nijazi Islam, who, although a member of the Tirana government, could no longer endure such unjust exploitation of Albania.

Hatipi pointed out that the Tirana government has Sovietized the social and cultural life of Albania; that this can be seen in the schools, the conferences, songs and dances, theaters, and cinemas. This process has been solidified through the Albanian-Soviet Cultural Union, he stated.

Hatipi's speech continued: During his trip through North Albania, Enver Hoxha in his speeches attempted to give the impression that Albania is independent. This is false. Albania, directed by Moscow, is isolated from all sides. No people can have secure independence and guaranteed internal peace if it does not have good relations with its neighbors. As we know, not all Albania's neighbors are her enemies. We who are living in Yugoslavia as political refugees have had proof of this friendship. With a good and impartial friend such as the new Yugoslavia, danger to Albania is lessening and its salvation is nearing. However, in view of the critical situation, the duty of Albanians is to think deeply, to open their eyes and struggle, because the days to come mean death or liberty to the Albanian people.

Tajar Hatipi also discussed the problem faced by the league of placing students in schools. As an example, because of lack of facilities in Macedonia and Montenegro, 38 students were transferred to Pec, Mitrovica, and Pristina. Today, there are 171 refugee Albanian students attending elementary schools, 61 in high schools, 4 in the normal schools of Djakovo and Skoplje, and 25 in universities, he stated. Thus, there are a total of 261 students attending various schools.

One of the great successes of the league, Hatipi added, was the publication of the newspaper Flamuri i Liris. This is considered a great gain by the Albanian refugees in Yugoslavia. Through this newspaper they can express their ideas and bring about cooperation and union in their efforts to liberate Albania.

Another speaker at this plenary session was Nik Sokoli, vice-chairman of the league. He pointed out that the most essential duty was the securing of all forces for one idea and one aim, the liberation of Albania.

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